

**PATTERNED RECORDING MEDIA AND APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

ABSTRACT

5 A method for patterning a recording medium selectively thermally couples
a recording medium and a heat source to alter a chemical composition of the
recording medium. An apparatus for patterning a recording medium has a heat
source for generating and directing an incident thermal wave to a recording
medium so as to alter a chemical composition of the recording medium, and a
10 controller for coordinating a mutual position of the incident thermal wave and the
recording medium for inducing a direct thermal coupling between the recording
medium and the heat source.